## LAND OF PROMISE.

Elk River Region Offers Inducements to Prospective Settlers

### COLONY OF NOVA SCOTIANS

Cutting the Virgin Forests of Clay County-Interesting Letter From One of the Colonists to his Home Newspaper-Speaks Glowingly the Opportunities in West Virginia.

Special Correspondence of Intelligen

PARSONS, W. Va., March 28 .- The following article was sent your correspondent for publication, by Hon. J. T. Hoke, U. S. consul at Windsor, Nova Scotia, and we believe it to be of interest to every West Virginian. est to every West Virginian. Mr. Hoke is from Kingwood, and never forgets or loses interest in his West Virginia friends-especially his newspaper friends-and occasionally writes us articles of interest for publication. He holds a warm place in the hearts of the people of the Second district of West Virginia, and we need not be surprised if he is encouraged for congressional honors upon his return from the consulate. Following is the article, with a letter from Mr. Hoke:

WINDSOR, Nova Scotla, March 23, 1900.—About eight months ago some Nova Scotia capitalists of this consulate district organized a company and moved down into Clay county, West Virginia. They obtained a charter from the secretary of state at Charleston, purchased timber lands, erected valuable mills, and are now engaged in the manufacture of lumber. While the company is not as large as some others, still it employs over two hundred hands, and is now running six mills.

As I have before stated in letters to West Virginia papers, Nova Scotians as a class, are good people, well educa-ted and very similar in their manners, taste and culture to the people of New England. This Nova Scotia colony. I think, is composed of such men.

In addition to the money they have invested in our state for their own benefit, the company seems to be doing much good to the people of Clay county, where they have located.

What this lumber company of Novi Scotians is doing in Clay county. W. Va., is set forth in a very interesting letter written in January last by a member of the company, Mr. David S. Collins, to the Truro News, published at Truro, Nova Scotia. letter is so interesting that I send you the entire fetter for publication. I am, Your obedient servant, JOSEPH T. HOKE.

#### The Nova Scotian's Letter. YANKEE DAM, Clay County, W.

Va., January 13, 1900,-"Perhaps it may give you a pleasing sensation, some trace of a friend to behold." This does not imply that your friends are few. but many. You would think so if you could see the eagerness with which your paper is read by the Nova Scotia

Four months ago to-day I can the Elk river with my tents and stable trappings in a caboose car, which was set upon a little siding here. With me were Perly Davison, H. Chisholm, Starret, James Leete and Frank Gamble, the advance guard from We pitched our tent Nova Scotia. and secured our meals with Mr. Lowis. who owns a reservation on the Thomp son tract of timber. A circular mill followed us. We broke ground and cleared away, and had It running in Since that time work has been going along so fast that it would be impossible to give it in detail. The result of those four months' work is that we now have four full equipped saw mills in operation, and the fifth is on the spot being set up. The sixth will be a band mill, and then our system will be complete.

Each of these mills sits upon differ ent creeks, emptying into Elk River. The lowest mill on the Elk is at Birch The farthest up is on Big Beechy creek, a distance of eight miles from Birch creek. On Big Sycamore creek we are to have two mills. This is where the mill now being set up is going and the new band mill.

We have about 9,000 acres of timbe on this one tract, and 4,500 on an adjoining tract. Have four tramroads built and three locomotives are being

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period of pregnancy. The earlier its use is begun, the more perfectly will the shape Mother's Friend

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are run into the mill on cars by gravitation, and mules haul them back, conduct these operations we have let out several contracts, mostly for logging and skidding. These contracts are taken up by native woodsmen who are as perfectly at home in the woods as the beasts that roam the forest. We over two hundred men employed that have come to us from Ohlo, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Nova Sco-For the mills, tramroads and yards the Nova Scotians are superior

We have twenty-sx of them and wish we had as many more.

The Timber Land.

The timber lands on the Elk river are the finest in the state. It consists of poplar, chestnut, oak, hickory, linn, cucumber, sycamore, buckeye, beech and The last is called spruce pine by the natives here. The country is mountainous, the only level land being the bottom land near the river and at the mouth of the creeks. The woods are very open and free from undergrowth. One can easily ride horse-back all over our tract of timber, and the best of the timber grows at the heads of the innumerable Some of it is very large, tall and straight. It often grows from fifty to eventy-five feet without a limb, and it Is quite common to cut a tree containing 2,000 feet or upwards. Yestsrday Ernest Jones quarter-sawed an oak log that yielded 464 feet, board measure We are producing at the present time about 50,000 feet daily of the above mentioned kinds of timber. It is sawed mostly into boards for use of furniture manufacturers. Quite a considerable quantity, however, is sawed into large squares for England. We manufacture lath and railroad ties. Most of the ties are hewed in the woods and drawn down on the tramroads to the Charleston, Clendennin & Sutton railroad, which extended its line through this county to Clay Court House, seven miles beyond us, a little over a year ago. All of our mills, with one exception, are placed on this line of railway, which is building up a splen-

The climate here is simply grand. I have not worn an overcoat but three days this winter, although we have had it down to zero. But the air is so very dry, and the winds such a rarity, that we do not seem to notice the cold as you do at home. The country abounds with coal, which costs us nothing except the digging, and we build large fire-places, and keep a big, cheerful fire going all day and all night. We have had two or three snow storms; during the heaviest the snow fell to the depth of four inches, and lasted about as many days, when it was gone. Most of the men from Nova Scotia are gaining in fiesh.

did business.

Our mutual friend, Mr. Suther B. Fulton, of Bass river, who is superintendent of our operations, has gained twenty-four pounds since he came here, and is giving me a race for the two hundred pound mark. The only thing to be cautious about is the water. Springs are very rare and it is mostly creek water that is drank, and this washes such a large surface of the earth's face it is apt to upset one if taken immoderately. This is easy overcome if men will only take the precaution to boil it and cool it before drinking.

#### Food a Serious Problem.

Food at first was another serious problem, but we are gradually overcoming that by securing a better class of boarding housekeepers and cooks. The cost of living is less than in any country I ever did business in. And if a few enterprising women would only come here and start boarding houses, they would surely die rich.

This country offers the best opportu-nities to laboring men, or men with small means, that are willing to take up land and build a home of any known to

Cattle roam the mountains the year round: stables are almost unknown. The West Virginia mountain hogs bring the highest price in the New York market of any pork that is sold, viz., twenty-eight cents per pound. They are small, rarely weighing over 150 pounds, of the long nose type. They get their living in the woods on nuts and roots and their meat is very sweet. It costs scarcely nothing to raise hogs and cattle here. Below me, on the Elk, an enterprising man has taken hundred acres, closed it in with a wire fence, stocked it last spring with calves and is clearing it. His only expense so bor, and a little salt for his stock, and he is sure to make a handsome profit.

Chickens are plenty. Everyone raises large numbers of them. In fact chick-ens, eggs, hog meat and combread are the principal articles of food. This, with a little tobacco, which the natives can raise themselves, and some coffee, makes the average family happy and contented. Houses and clothes are secondary considerations.

While writing this letter, two of our native workmen have come to the office and purchased 2,000 feet of hem-lock to build them a house. This will give you an idea of the amount of lum-ber used. The cost of this lumber is tio per thousand feet. The shacks conto the size of the family. Enting and sleeping in one room is very comm Storekeeping is an art in this country

and yields a splendid profit, but com-petition and a knowledge of the prices of commodities will lessen the profit somewhat, for they now range from 30 to 40 per cent.

The natives are a race peculiar unto themselves. Kindhearted, hospitable, but suspicious of strangers. When once you get their confidence you have s friend. Occasionally a feud breaks out and some one gets shot, but no one pays any attention to a little thing like that. Most of their troubles are imaginary ones. Families here, as a rule are large, and when a quarrel breaks out among them each one makes it a personal matter. This is carried on to an extent that is hard unless one knows them better than I do.

They want to see the country opened up and have given us a most cordial welcome. There are two things they cannot stand—one is getting wet and the other is being cold. At first sign of a shower they all knock off work, and if the day is chilly they sit by the fire at home. I have had a few days here when not a man at the mill opposite the office, was at work, except the men from Nova Scotia, and they did PILLS.

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not notice it a bit, but rather enjoyed it, and spoke jokingly of it putting them in mind of home.

## New Library Association.

We have no society here, but are us ing our utmost endeavor to improve the situation. We have formed an as sociation called the Elkhurst Library Association. Shares are \$1 each. have enough subscribed to purchase with a little extra effort we can furnish it. It is a stock company, authorized capital, \$1,000. 'The stock is non-asses-The dividends will be the "Word of God and the Light of Education up the Elk River." We are to build building in which religious services will be held on the Sabbath and a school on the week days. We are to have a reading room open of evenings. We al-ready have over \$50,000 worth of books that have been given and sent to us by friends in the east. We shall take the papers and magazines and the place will be open to all. The native citizens of this country are much pleased and subscribed liberally, as far as means will permit. Quite a few shares of stock have already found their way into Nova Scotia. It was deemed most proper to secure a charter and conduct this educational enterprise on a business-like principle to prevent it from becoming sectarian. The affairs of the association will be conducted by a board of directors, and the building will be open for all denominations, and the school will be conducted under the auspices of the association. We shall apply to the county for aid in supporting the school, but will depend mostly on contributions for its support.

Rev. William H. Ness, who so long presided over the Presbyterian church at Bass river, is with us as a most welcome guest. The company's resi-dential building is known as the "Old Man's Home." Mr. Ness has opened a school in it, and at present has but two girls as pupils, but is ready to receive more. He has organized a Bible class that meets every Sunday for the betterment and uplifting of this community. I am sure that you and all his friends at home will be pleased to learn that his health has improved since he came here, and that the climate agrees with him

It would be most interesting to you to watch the growth and progress of a lumber operation of this size, to see the families move into their shacks, mills erected, tram roads built, and in a few weeks all, is life and bustle. It is quite surprising to find how people like this free open air life.

The surrounding here are good. There are no saloons, no way of spending money, except at the country stores, and men have told me that they never saved as much money in the same length of time. It is the rule of early to bed and early to rise, and the spirit of activity prevails. If more men who are rusting out their talents in confined quarters, who are surrounded by circumstances that hold them bound in a prescribed groove, would only take the advantages that the opening up of this country affords, the whole tenor of their life would be changed for something better. When I look about me and see these men in woolen shirts and soft hats, some who have falled to make their mark in close home circles, who are to-day working with a determination and energy which would surprise those who knew them at their homes as I watch these men and do my utmost to open opportunities to them, for their advancement and development, I say to myself many times why will men seek false case and comfort at the cost of mental power and loss of health and physical strength? Why not step out and use the one talent God has given them, and make the best of the opportunities that life offer. D. S. C.

#### EASILY PROVEN. There is not the Slightest Necessity

for Leaving Wheeling to Look for

Proof. The experience given below by this well known citizen of Wheeling is easily proven. The proof he offers for his convictions can safely be left with the reader. It is a difficult matter to decirble an aching back or any of the ills caused by disordered kidneys. How to cure the trouble is of much more importance, and the most exacting cannot ask for any better authority on this point than given by Mr. J. E. Collins, of 22 South Huron street, a resident of Wheeling, for a great number of years, who says: "For five years there was an extreme weakness and constant onvictions can safely be left with the who says: "For five years there was an extreme weakness and constant aching across my loins and often my back became so stiff I could scarcely get up after lying down. Besides the kidney secretions were very irregular and high colored, and showed plainly what the origin of the trouble was. At the time I saw Doan's Kidney Pils advertised my kidneys were in bad shape and procured a box at the Logan Drng Company. The first box did me so much good that I got another and took it. It cured me," For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents per box. Mailed by Poster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—DOAN'S—and take no substitute.

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If Baby is outen.

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NEW REPUBLICAN PAPER Started in Old Monroe-County is

Now Safe Within the Fold.

ial Dispatch to the Intelligence HINTON, W. Va., March 29,-A Republican newspaper has been established at Union, the county seat of Monro county, by Miss Terrill and C. Monroe Meadows, the first number of which been a Republican paper published in Monroe county for nearly ten years. Monroe county is safely in the Repub lican column and the returns next No-vember will show it. Monroe is the county that in 1898 elected Mr. Via as their representative on the Republican ticket by a small majority, and was by a partisan Democratic county counted out and his opponent, Mr. Logan, counted in. The Republicans of the county have not forgotten the unfairness of the county court when honesty was side-tracked and Goebelism had full sway. Many Democrats were opposed to the methods used and so stated

In '96 Monroe's Democratic majority was 253, but in '98 it was seven Repub lican.

#### Sistersville Items.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. SISTERSVILLE, W. Va., March 29.-J. W. Johnston, a prosperous busi ness man, of Parkersburg, was in the city yesterday.

C. Smith, formerly superintendent for Chaddedon & Young, with head-quarters at St. Mary's, who recently disappeared with a large sum of money, has been captured in California, and will be brought back to that town.

L. B. Hill was a business visitor to Wheeling, yesterday.

Henry W. McCoy, of the South Side, was in Wheeling yesterday, looking after some business matters.

Chris Henderson, cashler at the Ohlo River Railroad Company, is slightly indisposed.

D. A. Bartlett, the well known producer, contemplates moving to Marietta, Ohio.

Miss Lizzie Gaffney, the charming young daughter of P. H. Gaffney, who has been visiting her parents in this city for the past few days, has returned to Mt. de Chantal Academy to resuma her studies.

R E Noel the tonsorial artist, of Diamond street, was in Parkersburg yesterday, looking for a location to open a first class barber shop

A. M. Rice was in New Martinsville

The new City band, of this city, has received several valuable donations through the various business people. The donations are for the purpose of giving a band fair and festival, to ommence May 7th and continue for one week.

#### Series of Farmers' Meetings. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 29 -- A series of farmers' meetings have been arranged by the state institute directors for the months of April and May These meetings will be held at the following places throughout the state: Hurricane, Putnam county, April 9 and 10; Blue Sulphur Springs, Cabell county, April 11 and 12; Wayne, county, April 13 and 14; Madison, Boom county, April 17; West Union, Doddridge county, May 15; Bridgeport, Harrison county, May 16; Terra Alta, Preston county, May 18; Keyser, Mineral county, May 19; Petersburg, Grant county, May 22; Franklin, Pendleton county, May 24; Moorefield, Hardy county, May 26; Romney, Hampshire county, May 28.

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ular trains within ten days, including date of sale.

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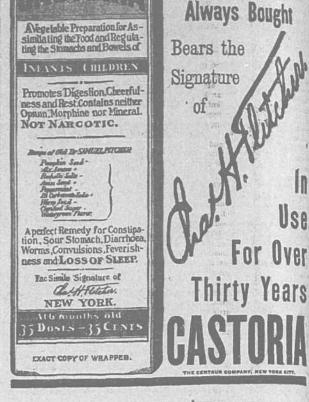
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